

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1.) Claim Amendments

The Applicants have amended claims 27-29, 35-37, 41, 43-45 and 50 and cancelled claims 26, 34 and 42. Accordingly, claims 27-33, 35-41 and 43-50 remain pending in the application. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

2.) Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner objected to claims 27-33, 35-41 and 43-50 as being dependent upon rejected base claims, but indicated they would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including the limitations of their respective base claim and any intervening claims. The Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter.

The Applicants have rewritten claims 27-29, 35-37, 43-45 and 50 in independent form, including the limitations of their respective base claims. Accordingly, those claims are now allowable. Furthermore, whereas claims 30-33, 38-41 and 46-49 are dependent from claims 29, 37 and 45, respectively, they are also now allowable.

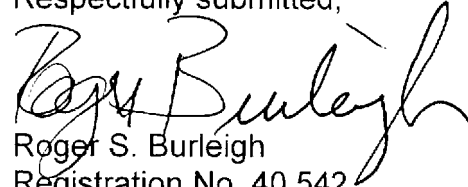
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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the Applicants believe all of the claims currently pending in the Application to be in a condition for allowance. The Applicants, therefore, respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance for claims 27-33, 35-41 and 43-50.

The Applicants requests a telephonic interview if the Examiner has any questions or requires any additional information that would further or expedite the prosecution of the Application.

Respectfully submitted,


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